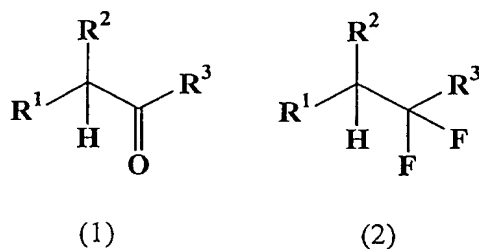


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2), which comprises reacting a compound of the following formula (1) with a compound of the formula X-Z or a compound of the formula Z₂O (wherein Z is a monovalent group which gives a leaving group of the structure -OZ, and X is a chlorine atom, a bromine atom or an iodine atom), and then ~~acting~~ further reacting with a fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions thereon to obtain the fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2):

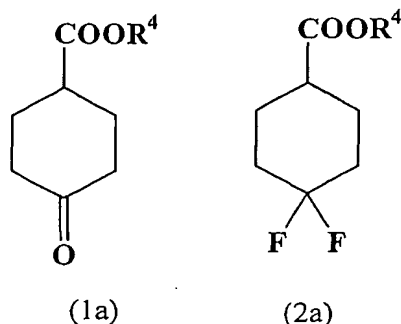


wherein each of R¹, R² and R³ which are independent of one another, is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group, or two selected from R¹, R² and R³ together form a bivalent organic group, and the other one is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group.

Claim 2 (Original): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions is HF.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions ~~is acted~~ reacts in the presence of a catalyst.

Claim 4 (Original): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the compound of the formula (1) is a compound of the following formula (1a), and the fluorine containing compound of the formula (2) is a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2a):

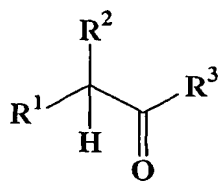


wherein R⁴ is a C₁₋₂₀ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one aryl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one monovalent heterocyclic group, an aryl group, a substituted aryl group or a C₁₋₂₀ fluoroalkyl group.

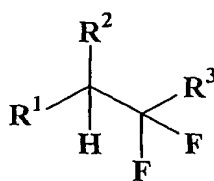
Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the compound formed by the reaction of the compound of the formula (1) with the compound of the formula X-Z or the compound of the formula Z₂O comprises at least two types of compounds, and the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine atoms ~~is acted on~~ reacts with said at least two types of compounds without isolating them.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2), which comprises reacting a compound of the following formula (1) with a compound X-Z (wherein Z is a monovalent group which gives a leaving group of the structure -OZ, and X is a chlorine atom, a bromine atom or an iodine atom) to obtain at least one type of a compound selected from compounds of the following

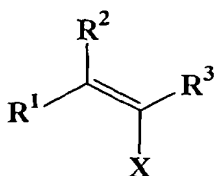
formulae (3) to (7), and then ~~acting~~ reacting a fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions ~~on~~ with said at least one type of a compound to obtain the fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2):



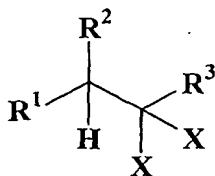
(1)



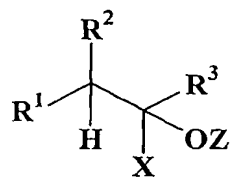
(2)



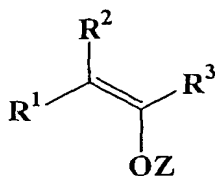
(3)



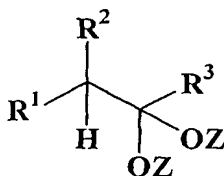
(4)



(5)



(6)



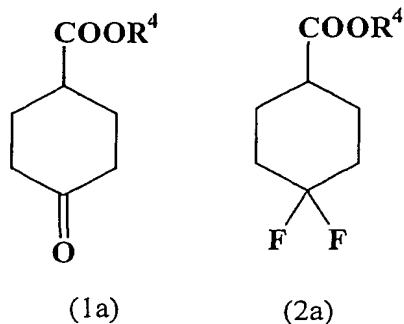
(7)

wherein each of R^1 , R^2 and R^3 which are independent of one another, is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group, or two selected from R^1 , R^2 and R^3 together form a bivalent organic group, and the other one is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group.

Claim 7 (Original): The production process according to Claim 6, wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions is HF.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 6, wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions ~~is acted~~ reacts in the presence of a catalyst.

Claim 9 (Original): The production process according to Claim 6, wherein the compound of the formula (1) is a compound of the following formula (1a), and the fluorine containing compound of the formula (2) is a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2a):

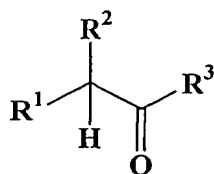


wherein R⁴ is a C₁₋₂₀ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one aryl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one monovalent heterocyclic group, an aryl group, a substituted aryl group or a C₁₋₂₀ fluoroalkyl group.

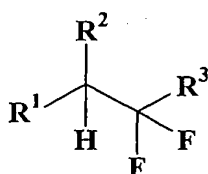
Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 6, wherein the compound formed by the reaction of the compound of the formula (1) with the compound of the formula X-Z or the compound of the formula Z₂O comprises at least two

types of compounds, and the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine atoms ~~is acted on~~
reacts with said at least two types of compounds without isolating them.

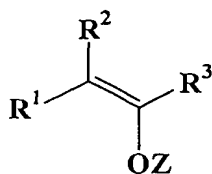
Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2), which comprises reacting a compound of the following formula (1) with a compound of the formula Z_2O (wherein Z is a monovalent group which gives a leaving group of the structure $-OZ$) to obtain at least one type of a compound selected from a compound of the following formula (6) and a compound of the following formula (7), and then ~~acting~~ reacting a fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions ~~on~~ with said at least one type of the compound to obtain the fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2):



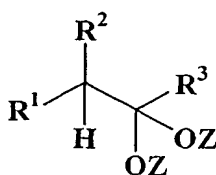
(1)



(2)



(6)



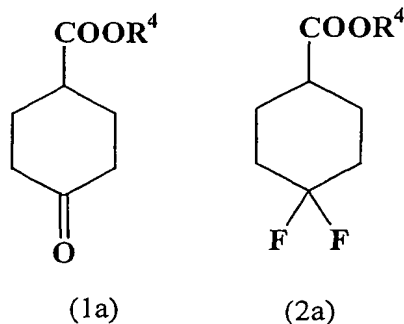
(7)

wherein each of R^1 , R^2 and R^3 which are independent of one another, is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group, or two selected from R^1 , R^2 and R^3 together form a bivalent organic group, and the other one is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group.

Claim 12 (Original): The production process according to Claim 11, wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions is HF.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 11, wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions ~~is acted~~ reacts in the presence of a catalyst.

Claim 14 (Original): The production process according to Claim 11, wherein the compound of the formula (1) is a compound of the following formula (1a), and the fluorine containing compound of the formula (2) is a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2a):



wherein R⁴ is a C₁₋₂₀ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one aryl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one monovalent heterocyclic group, an aryl group, a substituted aryl group or a C₁₋₂₀ fluoroalkyl group.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 11, wherein the compound formed by the reaction of the compound of the formula (1) with the compound of the formula X-Z or the compound of the formula Z₂O comprises at least two

types of compounds, and the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine atoms ~~is acted on~~
reacts with said at least two types of compounds without isolating them.

Claim 16 (New): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (1) is reacted with the compound of formula X-Z, which compound of formula X-Z is selected from the group consisting of HX, POX₃, PX₅, SOX₂, SO₂X₂, (COX)₂, R⁵COX, R⁵SO₂X and (R⁵O)₃P(O)X, wherein R⁵ is a monovalent organic group.

Claim 17 (New): The production process according to Claim 16, wherein the compound of formula X-Z is selected from the group consisting of POX₃, PX₅, SOX₂, (COX)₂, CH₃COC1, PhCOC1, CH₃CH₂COC1, p-CH₃C₆H₄SO₂C1, CH₃SO₂C1, CF₃SO₂C1, (PhO)₂PO-X, (CH₃CH₂O)₂PO-X and (CH₃O)₂PO-X, wherein Ph is a phenyl group.

Claim 18 (New): The production process according to Claim 17, wherein the compound of formula X-Z is PX₅.

Claim 19 (New): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (1) is reacted with a compound of formula Z₂O, which compound of formula Z₂O is (R⁵CO)₂O or (R⁵SO₂)₂O, wherein R⁵ is a monovalent organic group.

Claim 20 (New): The production process according to Claim 19, wherein the compound of formula Z₂O is (CH₃CO)₂O, (PhCO)₂O or (CF₃SO₂)₂O, wherein Ph is a phenyl group.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

The specification has been amended by replacing the term "acting . . . thereon" with --reaction . . . therewith--. The claims have been amended to be consistent with the above-discussed amendment to the specification. In addition, new Claims 16-20 have been added, and are supported in the specification at page 9, line 4 through page 10, line 12.

No new matter has been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-20 are now pending in the application.